Neath Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

For 1945.

Medical Officer of Health

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Neath Rural District Council

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For 1945.

Medical Officer of Health

Neath Rural District Council

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Vice-Chairman ..... Councillor R. GEARY, J.P.

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Chairman Mrs. BLODWEN JONES, J.P.
Vice-Chairman Mrs. M. J. JENKINS.

All members of the Council and the following Co-opted Members :—

Mrs. M. K. JENKINS.	Mrs. BOYLE.	Mrs. GWYN.
Mrs. COUSINS.	Mrs. GEARY.	Mrs. H. J. HOOPER.
Mrs. C. HOPKINS.	Mrs. DAVIES (Onllwyn).	Mrs. MORGAN (Melyncourt).
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Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health :

J. GRIFFITHS, O.B.E., M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Lond. & Eng.).

Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare Centres :

J. GRIFFITHS, O.B.E., M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Lond. & Eng.).

Obstetric and Gynaecological Consultant :

J. LLOYD DAVIES, M.D. (Lond.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Lond. & Eng.).

Obstetric and Gynaecologist Pathologist :

A. F. SLADDEN.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

C. G. STANFORD, C.R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B., R.S.I. Meat Cert.

District Sanitary Inspectors :

T. HOWELL BEVAN, C.R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B., R.S.I. Meat Cert. (*Demobilised from H.M. Forces, Nov.*, 1945).
PHILLIP LEWIS, C.R.S.I.

Health Visitors :

G. H. JAMES, Registered State Nurse, C.M.B. Cert., H.V.Cert. (R.S.I.).
O. LEWIS, C.M.B. Cert., H.V. Cert. (R.S.I.).
E. EDWARDS, Registered State Nurse, C.M.B. Cert., New H.V. Cert. (R.S.I.).

Clerks :

D. J. DAVIES.
CLARICE BEST, B.A.

Junior Clerk :

WINIFRED BLOXHAM.

Neath Rural District Council

Public Health Department,
Orchard Chambers,
Neath.

September, 1946.

To the Chairman and Members,
NEATH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report for 1945, this being the 27th Report during my period of Office, and is prepared in accordance with the Ministry Circulars.

It will be noted that the Birth-rate at 16.6 is considerably less than for 1944, when it was 20.3. The death-rate is 11.5, as compared with 10.6 for 1944.

The Infantile Mortality rate at 55 is higher than that for 1944, but lower than in any of the other years since 1941.

There was only one maternal death in 1945, the lowest for many years.

During the year there was one death only from Diphtheria in a child aged 4 years who had not been immunised.

A comparative table for births, deaths and infant deaths for the whole of the County is given in the Report. This table shows that the birth-rate is less than the average birth-rate for the County but higher than that for England and Wales.

No houses were built in your area during 1945.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,
Yours faithfully,

J. GRIFFITHS,
Medical Officer of Health.

Report

I.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area.—The acreage of the Neath Rural District (including land and inland water) is 52,039.

The acreage of each Parish is as follows :—

Baglan Higher	1,718	acres.
Blaengwrach	2,869	,,
Blaenhonddan	3,466	,,
Clyne	2,195	,,
Coedffranc	3,826	,,
Dyffryn Clydach	1,725	,,
Dulais Higher	6,261	,,
Dulais Lower	5,227	,,
Michaelstone Higher	2,410	,,
Neath Higher	6,870	,,
Neath Lower	2,101	,,
Resolven	4,672	,,
Rhigos	5,583	,,
Tonna	3,116	,,

Population.—The census population of 1931 is 39,783.

The Registrar-General's estimated population for 1945 is 39,560.

Rateable Value and Sum Represented by a Penny Rate :—

(*a*) Total Rateable Value ..... £150,489.

(*b*) Produce of a Penny Rate—General Rate Purposes £657. 1s. 0d.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year :—

		Total.	*M.*	*F.*	
LIVE BIRTHS	Legitimate	627	314	313	Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 16.6
	Illegitimate	29	16	13	
STILL-BIRTHS	Legitimate	16	8	8	Still-birth rate per 1,000 Live and still births 25.3
	Illegitimate	1	0	1	
DEATHS		454	247	207	Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 11.5

Maternal Deaths.

	Deaths.	*Rate per 1,000 total live and still births.*
1. Puerperal and Post-abortive sepsis	0	0.00
2. Other maternal causes	1	1.48
Total	1	1.48

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age :—

	Death-rate.
All infants per 1,000 live births	55
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	56
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	34

	Total.	*Male.*	*Female.*
Deaths from CANCER (all ages)	59	29	30
,, MEASLES (all ages)	1	1	0
,, DIARRHOEA (under 2 years)	3	1	2
,, WHOOPING COUGH (all ages)	0	0	0

Age Distribution of Cancer Deaths :—

	Male.	*Female.*
0—25 years	0	0
25—35 years	0	0
35—45 years	1	2
45—55 years	4	8
55—65 years	12	6
65 years and onwards	12	14
	29	30

Births.—The proportion of live male to live female births for the year is as 1,000 is to 988.
The number of births and birth-rates since 1936 for the Neath Rural District are shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Births.*	*Birth-rate.*
1936	641	15.9
1937	643	16.0
1938	643	15.9
1939	623	15.3
1940	676	17.0
1941	661	16.4
1942	701	17.7
1943	697	17.7
1944	802	20.3
1945	656	16.6

Still-births.—The number of still-births and the still-birth rates since 1936 for the Neath Rural District are as follows :—

Year.	*Still-births.*	*Still-birth rates per 1,000 Live & Still-births.*
1936	34	50.4
1937	38	55.8
1938	30	44.5
1939	36	54.6
1940	30	42.4
1941	25	36.4
1942	26	37.1
1943	22	31.5
1944	31	37.2
1945	17	25.3

Deaths.—The deaths at all ages and from all causes during the year 1945 amounted to 454. Of this total 247 were males and 207 females. The deaths correspond to a death-rate of 11.5 per thousand of the population.

The number of deaths, as well as the percentage at different age periods, are given below :—

Age Periods.	*No. of Deaths.*	*Percentage of Total Deaths.*
0—1 year	36	7.9
1—2 years	0	0.0
2—5 years	7	1.6
5—15 years	2	0.4
15—25 years	10	2.2
25—45 years	41	9.0
45—65 years	131	28.9
65 years and upwards	227	50.0
Total	454	

The number of deaths and death-rates for the area since 1936 are given in the following table :—

Year.	*No. of Deaths.*	*Death-rates.*
1936	446	11.1
1937	455	11.3
1938	453	11.2
1939	489	12.0
1940	455	11.4
1941	513	12.7
1942	461	11.7
1943	438	11.1
1944	420	10.6
1945	454	11.5

During 1945 the District Coroner held inquests on 36 deaths, i.e., 7.9 per cent. of the total deaths.

Transferable Deaths.—126 deaths occurred outside the district, i.e., being persons belonging to this district. These deaths are included in the total number of deaths, 454, given above. 11 deaths occurred within the District among persons belonging to other districts and these have been transferred to the districts concerned and are not included in the total number of deaths for the area.

Seasonable Death-rate.—The following table gives the number of deaths and death-rates for each quarter of 1945 :—

	No. of Deaths.	*Death-rate.*
First Quarter	131	13.3
Second Quarter	120	12.2
Third Quarter	92	9.3
Fourth Quarter	111	11.2

The following table gives the comparative figures for Births, Deaths and Infant Mortality Rates in the County of Glamorgan :—

District.	Estimated Population, 1945	Births.		Deaths.		Infant Mortality.	
		Number of Births.	Rate per 1000 Population.	Number of Deaths.	Rate per 1000 Population.	Deaths under 1 year.	Rate per 1000 births.
Administrative County	697780	12643	18.1	9022	12.9	727	58
Urban Districts	514630	9391	18.2	6822	13.3	555	59
Rural Districts	183150	3252	17.8	2200	12.0	172	53
England & Wales	—	—	16.1	—	11.4	—	46
Urban Districts.							
Aberdare	38930	606	15.6	591	15.2	28	46
Barry	36440	740	20.3	503	13.8	41	55
Bridgend	11650	203	17.4	134	11.5	7	35
Caerphilly	32160	678	21.1	452	14.1	46	68
Cowbridge	1207	25	20.7	13	10.8	2	80
Gelligaer	35900	742	20.7	454	12.6	70	94
Glyncorrwg	8948	204	22.8	110	12.3	13	64
Llwchwr	24640	401	16.3	310	12.6	25	62
Maesteg	22410	434	19.4	321	14.3	24	55
Mountain Ash	32370	620	19.2	409	12.6	35	57
Neath	29400	471	16.0	371	12.6	22	47
Ogmore & Garw	23560	458	19.4	276	11.7	20	44
Penarth	15620	223	14.3	205	13.1	7	31
Pontypridd	38020	696	18.3	506	13.3	58	83
Porthcawl	8455	137	16.2	125	14.8	5	37
Port Talbot	38440	673	17.5	483	12.6	42	62
Rhondda	116480	2080	17.9	1559	13.4	110	53
Rural Districts.							
Cardiff	34660	570	16.4	374	10.8	20	35
Cowbridge	12270	266	21.7	158	12.9	14	53
Gower	10670	162	15.2	114	10.7	6	37
Llantrisant	22950	499	21.7	327	14.2	34	68
Neath	39560	656	16.6	454	11.5	36	55
Penybont	30520	584	19.1	374	12.3	27	46
Pontardawe	32520	515	15.8	399	12.3	35	68

Causes of Death (*Neath Rural*, 1945).

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Diphtheria	1	0	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	10	11	21
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1	4	5
Syphilitic Diseases	2	0	2
Influenza	1	3	4
Measles	1	0	1
Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis	0	0	0
Cancer of buccal cavity : and oesophagus (M) : uterus (F)	3	6	9
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	8	6	14
Cancer of Breast	0	3	3
Cancer of all other sites	18	15	33
Diabetes	1	7	8
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	17	26	43
Heart Disease	54	51	105
Other Diseases of Circ. System	5	6	11
Bronchitis	23	14	37
Pneumonia	14	5	19
Other Respiratory Diseases	18	0	18
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	4	1	5
Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	2	3
Appendicitis	0	0	0
Other Digestive Diseases	7	6	13

Causes of Death—*continued.*

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
Nephritis	7	8	15
Puerperal and Post abortive Sepsis	0	0	0
Other Maternal Causes	0	1	1
Premature Birth	2	3	5
Congenital Malformations : Birth Injuries ; Infant Diseases	9	4	13
Suicide	1	0	1
Road Traffic Accidents	2	0	2
Other Violent Causes	10	1	11
All Other Causes	27	24	51
Total	247	207	454

Deaths from Principal Epidemic Diseases.

Five deaths occurred from epidemic diseases of the seven principal epidemic diseases. They were as follows :—

Diphtheria	1
Measles	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	3

The number of deaths and death-rates from the principal epidemic diseases since 1936 are shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Total Deaths.*	*Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.*	*Zymotic Diseases Death-rate.*
1936	446	12	0.29
1937	455	7	0.17
1938	453	8	0.19
1939	489	8	0.19
1940	455	9	0.22
1941	513	11	0.27
1942	461	8	0.20
1943	438	1	0.02
1944	420	5	0.13
1945	454	5	0.13

Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).

The number of deaths and death-rates in the area since 1936 are given in the following table :—

Year.	*Total Births.*	*Deaths under 2 years from Diarrhoea and Enteritis.*	*Death-rate per 1,000 live births.*
1936	641	3	4.68
1937	643	1	1.55
1938	643	1	1.55
1939	623	0	0.00
1940	686	4	5.83
1941	676	3	4.43
1942	701	3	4.27
1943	697	1	1.43
1944	802	2	2.49
1945	656	3	4.57

Infantile Mortality.

For the purpose of calculating Infantile Mortality there were 656 births during the year and 36 deaths of infants under One year, giving an infantile mortality rate of 55 per thousand live births.

The infantile mortality rates in legitimate and illegitimate infants were 55 and 34 respectively.

The following table gives the number of births and deaths of infants under one year, together with its corresponding infant mortality rate, for each year since 1936 :—

Year.	*Births.*	*Deaths under 1 year.*	*Rate per 1,000 births.*
1936	641	44	69
1937	643	41	64
1938	643	45	70
1939	623	41	65
1940	686	33	48
1941	676	48	71
1942	701	51	73
1943	697	42	60
1944	802	26	32
1945	656	36	55

Causes of Deaths of Infants under One Year.

The following are the ages and causes of deaths of children under one year during the year 1945 :—

Age (1 *hour to* 24 *hours*).

No.	*Age.*	*Sex.*	*Cause of Death.*
1.	10 mins.	M.	(1a) Asphyxia ; (b) Difficult Labour.
2.	20 mins.	M.	(1a) Heart Failure ; (b) Maternal Toxaemia.
3.	45 mins.	F.	(1a) Prematurity : (b) Congenital Malformation.
4.	50 mins.	M.	(1a) Asphyxia Pallida.
5.	3 hours	M.	(1a) Asphyxia Livida.
6.	4 hours	M.	(1a) Prematurity.
7.	7 hours	F.	(1a) Asphyxia Livida ; (b) Prematurity.
8.	15 hours	M.	(1a) Asphyxia Neonatorum.
9.	18 hours	M.	(1a) Asphyxia ; (b) Atelectasis.
10.	1 day	F.	(1a) Cardiac Failure ; (b) Prematurity.
11.	2 days	M.	(1a) Spina Bifida.
12.	4 days	F.	(1a) Prematurity.
13.	6 days	F.	(1a) Teutorial Cerebral Haemorrhage.
14.	1 week	M.	(1a) Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida.
15.	3 weeks	F.	(1a) Broncho Pneumonia.
16.	3 weeks	M.	(1a) Congenital Atelectosis ; (b) Congenital Debility ; (c) Prematurity.
17.	1 month	F.	(1a) Enteritis ; (b) Erythroblastosis.
18.	1 month	M.	(1a) Acute Primary Pneumonia.
19.	1 month	M.	(1a) Bronchitis.
20.	1 month	F.	(1a) Convulsions ; (b) Gastro Enteritis.
21.	1 month	M.	(1a) Vomiting ; (b) Pyloric Spasm ; (c) Premature Birth.
22.	1 month	F.	(1a) Marasmus.
23.	2 months	M.	(1a) Cardiac Failure ; (b) Acute Bronchitis.
24.	2 months	F.	(1a) Capillary Bronchitis.
25.	2 months	F.	(1a) Convulsions ; (b) Gastritis.
26.	4 months	M.	(1a) Broncho Pneumonia.
27.	4 months	F.	(1a) Acute Bronchitis.
28.	5 months	M.	(1a) Broncho Pneumonia ; (b) Acute Bronchitis ; (c) Measles.
29.	5 months	F.	(1a) Spina Bifida.
30.	5 months	F.	(1a) Convulsions ; (b) Broncho Pneumonia.
31.	6 months	M.	(1a) Cardiac Failure ; (b) Bronchial Pneumonia.
32.	6 months	M.	(1a) Cardiac Failure ; (b) Broncho Pneumonia ; (c) Gastro Enteritis.
33.	7 months	F.	(1a) Tubercular Meningitis.
34.	7 months	F.	(1a) Acute Bronchitis.
35.	7 months	F.	(1a) Acute Bronchitis.
36.	8 months	M.	(1a) Acute Bronchitis.

The following simple analysis shows that of these 36 deaths, 9 did not live for a period of more than 18 hours and in six of these cases death was due to asphyxia, 2 to prematurity and one to heart failure.

Of the remaining 27 deaths of infants who lived varying periods from 1 day to 8 months, 4 were due to Congenital abnormalities, 3 to Prematurity, 14 to Pneumonia and Bronchitis, 3 to Infantile Diarrhoea, 1 to Tubercular Meningitis, 1 to Morasmus and 1 to Teutorial Ceberal Haemorrhage.

The large number of deaths due to Broncho Pneumonia and Bronchitis suggests very forcibly that Hospital accommodation for such cases is much needed.

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case Rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1945. Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales.	126 *C.B.'s and Gt. Towns, including London.*	148 *Smaller Towns—resident pop.* 25,000—50,000 *at* 1931 *Census.*	*London Adm. County.*	*Neath Rural District.*
Rates per 1,000 *Civilian population* :—					
Live Births	16.1	19.1	19.2	15.7	16.6
Still Births	0.46	0.58	0.53	0.40	0.45
Deaths :—					
All Causes	11.4	13.5	12.3	13.8	11.5
Typhoid and Para-Typhoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.00
Diphtheria	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02
Influenza	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.10
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	0.00
Measles	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02
Rates per 1,000 *live births* :					
Deaths under 1 year of age	46	54	43	53	55
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.6	7.8	4.5	7.6	4.5
Rates per 1,000 *Civilian Population* :—					
Notifications :					
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Para-Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.00
Scarlet Fever	1.89	2.02	2.03	1.57	2.75
Whooping Cough	1.64	1.65	1.47	1.25	0.60
Diphtheria	0.46	0.52	0.56	0.31	1.49
Erysipelas	0.25	0.28	0.24	0.31	0.17
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00
Measles	11.67	10.89	11.19	9.03	7.63
Pneumonia	0.87	1.03	0.72	0.78	1.36
Rates per 1,000 *Total Births (Live and Still)* :					
Notifications :					
Puerperal Fever) Puerperal Pyrexia)	9.93	12.65	8.81	(3.60 (5.87 *	0.00

* *Including Puerperal Fever.*

Maternal Mortality :—*England and Wales* :

Abortion with Sepsis	0.25	Abortion without Sepsis	0.03
Puerperal Infections	0.24	Other	1.22

Maternal Mortality :—*Neath Rural District* :—

Abortion with Sepsis	0.00	Abortion without Sepsis	0.00
Puerperal Infections	0.00	Other	1.48

Abortion :—*Mortalty per million women aged* 15—45—*England and Wales* :—

No. 140 With Sepsis	18	No. 141 Without Sepsis	6

Sickness and Invalidity.—No sickness or invalidity of note occurred in the dirstict during the year, apart from infectious diseases referred to in the latter part of this Report, and Silicosis, which takes its annual toll among miners.

Of 14 deaths notified Silicosis was either the sole or a contributing cause of death.

II.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(1) Public Health Officers of the Authority.

Diplomas and Certificates of Medical, Nursing, Sanitary and Clerical Staff of the Department are given in the beginning of this Report. There is only one full-time Medical Officer employed whose duties, in addition to those lad down in the Sanitary Officers' Orders, include those as Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare.

Complicated maternity cases are, when a second opinion is needed, referred to Dr. J. Lloyd Davies, of Swansea.

The Nursing Staff during 1945 was comprised of three full-time officers. Their duties are Health Visiting, T.B. Visiting and attendance at Infant Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinics and also Immunisation Clinics. Inasmuch as the work in these directions has increased and the Council have decided to open additonal clinics at Bryncoch and Rhigos, a fourth Health Visitor was appointed in 1946.

The Sanitary Staff during the greater part of 1945 consisted of two Officers. During the latter part of the year a third Inspector who had been in His Majesty's Forces for some 5 years was demobilised and returned to his appointment in December. During 1946, Inspector P. Lewis collapsed and died at his work. At the time of writing this Report his place has not been filled. I have, on a number of occasions, urged the Council to appoint a fourth inspector and in November, 1945, they agreed to do so, but, up to the present, no appointment has been made. I would take this opportunity of again emphasising the need of a fourth inspector in your area, which has a population of nearly 40,000 and an acreage of some 52,000.

(2) (*a*) Laboratory Facilities.

Arrangements for the examination of pathological specimens, water, and so forth, are made with the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory and Dr. Sladden, of the Beck Laboratory, Swansea.

(*b*) Ambulance Facilities.

The Council possesses an Ambulance which is used for conveying patients to Swansea General and West Glamorgan County Hospitals.

Certain difficulties arose during the year owing to the difficulty of purchasing a new Ambulance and also the delay in obtaining spare parts for the existing Ambulance which was, at that time, out of repair. As a temporary measure an A.R.P. Ambulance was purchased from the Glamorgan County Council which, though not of a really suitable type, served its purpose for a temporary period.

There are other Ambulances in the area belonging to various Collieries which are used for conveying cases of Colliery accidents. There are also Ambulances in the upper portion of the Dulais Valley which are provided by the workmen in these areas for their own use and that of their families. In the most populated part of the area, namely, Skewen and Neath Abbey, and also in the Neath Valley, there is no provision made for the general public apart from the one Ambulance provided by the Council.

The Ambulance Service for these areas is insufficient and in an area where the distances to be covered to the various hospitals are comparatively long, additional facilities are needed, and it is here again emphasised in my Report, as Ihave done in the Council Chamber, that three Ambulances with a full-time Staff employed are necessary to meet the requirements of the District in a complete day and night service.

(*c*) Nursing in the Home.

There are six Nursing Associations in the district, namely :—

(i) Skewen and District Nursing Association ;
(ii) Resolven and District Nursing Association ;
(iii) Crynant and District Nursing Association ;
(iv) Glynneath Nursing Association ;
(v) Dyffryn and Bryncoch Nursing Association ;
(vi) Cwmavon and District Nursing Association.

The above Associations are given an annual subscription of £20 in the case of the first and £10 in respect of each of the others, providing they supply a Nurse for the nursing of certain cases referred to them by the Medical Officer of Health.

(*d*) **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

The following are particulars relating to existing Centres in the area :—

Name.	*Situation.*	*Nature of Accommodation.*	*By whom provided.*	*Purposes for which used.*
Glynneath	Infant Welfare Centre, Addoldy Road	Pram Shelter. Waiting Room. Disrobing and Weighing Room. Medical Officer's Room. Nurses' Room. Testing Room. Kitchen. Lavatories, etc., for Staff and Patients.	Neath Rural District Council.	Infant Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinics.
Seven Sisters	Infant Welfare Centre, Mary Street	do.	do.	do.
Skewen ..	Infant Welfare Centre, Cefn Park	do.	do.	do.
Resolven ..	Miners' Welfare Hall	Two Rooms . .	do.	Infant Welfare Clinic.
Aberdulais .	Baptist Chapel Vestry .	Two Rooms	do.	do.
Efail Fach .	"Y Gangen Chapel" .	One Room (*partitioned*)	do.	do.
Onllwyn ..	Miners' Welfare Hall ..	Three Rooms	do.	do.
Skewen	United Methodist Vestry	Two Rooms	do.	do.
Neath	15, Orchard Street	Two Rooms	do.	Ante-Natal Clinic.

The Clinic at Skewen is at present being restored to its original condition and Child Welfare Clinics have had to be held in the vestry of the United Methodist Chapel. These premises are quite unsuitable and it is to be hoped that the Council's Clinic at Skewen will soon be ready for use again.

The Council have now decided to hold additional Child Welfare Clinics at Bryncoch and Rhigos. Premises have been obtained at the Ambulance Hall in the former and at the Croesfford Hostel in the latter. Delay in the opening of these clinics is due to the fact that scales, cupboards, etc., ordered for these clinics have not as yet been delivered.

The following Table gives details of the attendances at each Centre during the year :—

CENTRE.	*Total Attendances.*		*First Visits.*		*Number who attended during the year and who at the end of the year were :—*	
	Children under One year.	*Children One to Five years.*	*Children under One year.*	*Children One to Five years.*	*Children under One year.*	*Children One to Five years.*
Skewen	439	293	87	12	60	115
Seven Sisters	374	173	63	5	55	106
Pontrhydyfen	50	18	19	2	6	22
Aberdulais	147	93	38	3	25	74
Resolven	205	124	54	8	39	65
Glyn Neath	422	137	101	8	69	114
Onllwyn	237	43	43	4	30	50
TOTALS	1874	891	405	42	284	546

Ante-Natal Centres.

Monthly sessions are held at each of the following Centres :—

(1) Clinic, Addoldy Road, Glyn Neath.
(2) Clinic, Mary Street, Seven Sisters.
(3) Clinic, Cefn Parc, Skewen.
(4) Health Dept., 15, Orchard Street, Neath.

The total attendances at these Centres during the year were :—

(*a*) Total number of Expectant Mothers who attended	172
(*b*) Total number of attendances by Expectant Mothers	354

The number of maternity cases admitted to West Glamorgan Hospital was 42. One case was admitted to Mid-Glamorgan Hospital, Bridgend, and one to Tydfil Lodge, Merthyr Tydfil.

Health Visitors.

There are three Health Visitors employed by the Council and the following is a summary of the work done by them during the year :—

VISITS TO EXPECTANT MOTHERS :—
First Visits, 189. Total Visits, 283.

VISITS TO CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR :—
First Visits, 702. Total Visits, 1918.

VISITS TO CHILDREN 1 TO 5 YEARS :—
Total Visits, 2677.

VISITS TO INVESTIGATE STILL BIRTHS	20
VISITS TO CASES OF OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM	2
MISCELLANEOUS VISITS	88
GRAND TOTAL OF VISITS	4988

Child Life Protection.

There were no persons in the area receiving children for reward at the end of the year.

Other Facilities under Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.

By arrangement with the Glamorgan County Council, the treatment of tonsils and adenoids, dental and ophthalmic cases, is carried out by the appropriate officers of that Council, a scale of charges for such cases being agreed between the two authorities. The following cases were treated during the year :

Tonsils and Adenoids	15
Dental Treatment :—	
(*a*) Expectant Mothers	23
(*b*) Children	7

Cod Liver Oil and Fruit Juices.

Officers of the local office of the Ministry of Food attend at all child welfare clinics in the area for the purpose of distributing cod-liver oil and fruit juices and dried milk in accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Food.

Hospitals, Maternity and Midwifery Service.

There are no public or voluntary general Hospitals in the area. The majority of patients in the area needing Hospital treatment are provided for at either the Swansea General Hospital or the West Glamorgan County Hospital at Neath.

Provision is made, by arrangement with the Glamorgan County Council, for the admission of maternity cases to the West Glamorgan County Hospital. The Neath Rural area is allowed to admit four such cases each month. This figure is entirely inadequate but cannot be increased, owing to the limited accommodation available at the Hospital. As a result many women who should be in Hospital for their confinements have, of necessity, to be confined at home. The need for extra beds for such cases from this area cannot be too greatly emphasised.

Provision for infectious diseases is made at the Tonna Isolation Hospital which is administered by the Neath Joint Hospital Board, which is composed of members of the Glamorgan County Council, Neath Borough Council and Neath Rural District Council.

The Midwives' Act is administered by the Glamorgan County Council who employ midwives to practice throughout the Neath Rural area.

III.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The sanitary conditions of your area, whilst still leaving much room for improvement, have steadily advanced from the terrible conditions which prevailed in the 'seventies' of the 19th century.

In years gone by Reports were made by the Local Government Board's Medical Inspectors upon the conditions prevailing at the time of their visits, and for the benefit of the members of the Council and particularly the new members, I append some extracts from the Reports of those days :—

" In 1877 it was reported that great prevalence of insanitary conditions existed, with absence of an isolation hospital.

In 1885—86 the district was visited by a Medical Inspector during his general Cholera Survey and recommendations were made for the improvement of the District.

In 1890 another Medical Inspector reported upon a very fatal outbreak of Scarlet Fever at Coedffranc, when 25% of the cases ended fatally. This Inspector pointed out the lack of an isolation Hospital, that there was no system of sewerage and no public scavenging of privies or earth closets.

In 1911 another inspection was made and reported upon, when it was stated that the water supply was derived mainly from upload surface water and springs impounded upon the mountains and conveyed by gravitation to the villages. Such supplies were under the control of the District Council. Water was also obtained from disused mines and piped to houses. The remaining supplies were from wells and surface water drainage, from fields and dip wells. The smaller sources were liable to pollution and one such source was the cause of 26 cases of enteric fever at Onllwyn in 1908.

There were at this time sewers in Skewen, the sewage passing untreated into the tidal river Neath. At Banwen the proprietor of a street of 50 houses, provided a sewer which discharged into a septic tank, clinker filters, etc. This was the only satisfactory sewage works in the district as in the rest of the area there was no system of systematic sewerage. In the greater part of the district liquid refuse escaped into streams, ditches or roadside channels, eventually soaking away into the subsoil. Excrement disposal was effected in almost every way that was possible, slop-water closets, pails, privies and water closets with and without a separate supply of water for flushing. Water closets, owing to lack of water, were often in a very foul condition."

Much improvement has taken place since those days and a big stride forward in the improvement of the water supply occurred when the Ystradfellte Water Scheme came into being in 1913. This reservoir provides some 92% of the houses in the area with water and during recent years has been provided with a chlorination plant. Nearly 4% of the remaining houses in the area are also provided with a piped supply of water mainly from the Llynfawr Reservoir situate within the Neath Rural Area, but belonging to the Rhondda Urban Council. The remaining 4% are chiefly isolated cottages and farms which obtain their water from springs, wells and streams.

Despite the picture painted above there is still room for improvement of the areas' water supplies inasmuch as pressure is lacking in some parts and development of other parts is anticipated. Various schemes have been prepared by your Engineer and it is to be hoped that the time will soon arrive when these schemes are in hand.

The advent of the Ystradfellte Water Scheme also signalised improvement in sewerage with the result that by today some 85% of the houses in the area are connected to the various sewers. Since 1939 further work in this direction has, as a result of the war, been at a standstill. Plans have been prepared for sewering parts of the area which are still unsewered and here, again, it is to be hoped that these proposed schemes will soon bear fruition.

As it is at present in the Parishes of Rhigos, Neath Lower, Clyne and Baglan Higher, the disposal of sewage is little better than in the days of 1870 to 1913, as slop-water discharges into fields, streams, old and improperly constructed cesspools and in some cases even into road channels and roadside gutters. Excrement has to be buried in back-gardens which have become " sick " by continuous use, and very often flooded streams are also undoubtedly used as a means of disposal of excreta.

Neath Rural can justly feel proud of its achievements in the past but I would again say that no stone should be left unturned until such time as the " 1870 conditions " still prevailing in some parts of the area in " 1945 " are removed once and for all.

The system of scavenging in your area. I have brought to your attention on a number of occasions and would here reiterate my disappointment at the very slow improvement in this service during the 27 years I have been your Medical Officer. Numerous reports have been given at various times, and although scavenging is now done " directly " in the Parishes of Coedffranc, Dyffryn Clydach, Neath Higher, Blaengwrach and Cwmgwrach Ward, the remainder is still scavenged on the " Contract " method, and in the whole of the area the method of disposal of house refuse is entirely unsatisfactory. Loads of refuse are just tipped on the refuse dumps which are often ill sighted and invariably breeding grounds for rats, flies, etc. During the early part of 1946 I have reported to you upon the unsatisfactory state of most of the " dumps " in your area and I sincerely trust that a more up-to-date and sanitary method will soon be employed, particularly for the disposal of house refuse.

To summarise the above remarks, I would urge upon you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to pursue with all vigour the improvement of water supplies where necessary, the sewering of areas where conditions are now almost intolerable, and thirdly, to introduce a modern and up-to-date method of refuse collection and disposal.

(*a*) **Water.**

The following monthly rainfall was recorded at Ystradfellte during the year 1945 :—

January	6.86 ins.	July	5.02 ins.
February	12.30 ,,	August	5.30 ,,
March	4.50 ,,	September	8.17 ,,
April	5.11 ,,	October	10.36 ,,
May	7.11 ,,	November	1.05 ,,
June	10.75 ,,	December	11.17 ,,

Total Rainfall for 1945 87.70 inches.

The following Table gives the various sources of water supply, together with the number of houses served by each supply in each District, Valley, Parish and Ward :—

Districts and Parishes.	Ystradfellte Water Scheme.	Llynfawr Reservoir.	Mr. Bevan's Private Reservoir.	Neath Borough Reservoir.	Springs, Wells, etc.	Without Water Supply.	Total.
DULAIS VALLEY :							
Dulais Higher (Crynant Ward	315	0	0	0	21	0	336
(Seven Sisters Ward	624	0	23	0	18	0	665
(Onllwyn Ward	518	0	0	0	7	0	525
Dulais Lower	305	0	0	0	41	0	346
							—1872
NEATH VALLEY (*Non-Tidal Portion*)—							
Rhigos	78	356	0	0	27	0	461
Neath Higher	1114	0	0	0	63	2	1179
Blaengwrach	195	0	0	0	21	0	216
Resolven (Resolven Ward	684	0	0	0	24	1	709
(Cwmgwrach Ward	235	0	0	0	6	1	242
Neath Lower	99	0	0	0	14	0	113
Clyne	226	0	0	0	7	0	233
							—3153
NEATH VALLEY (*Tidal Portion*) :							
Tonna	401	0	0	4	41	0	446
Blaenhonddan	1011	0	0	0	41	0	1052
Dyffryn Clydach	517	0	0	0	33	1	551
Coedffranc	2466	0	0	0	20	0	2486
							—4535
AFAN VALLEY :							
Baglan	105	0	0	0	5	0	110
Michaelstone Higher	266	0	0	0	17	0	283
							— 393
Totals	9159	356	23	4	406	5	9953

The following Table gives the percentage of houses on the various water supplies in the area :—

District.	Ystradfellte Water Scheme.	Llynfawr Reservoir.	Mr. Bevan's Private Reservoir.	Neath Borough Reservoir.	Springs, Wells, etc.	Without Water Supply.
DULAIS VALLEY— Comprising Dulais Higher and Dulais Lower	94.1	0.0	1.3	0.0	4.6	0.00
NEATH VALLEY—(*Non-Tidal Portion*)— Comprising Rhigos, Neath Higher, Blaengwrach, Resolven, Neath Lower and Clyne	16.9	77.2	0.0	0.0	5.8	0.0
NEATH VALLEY—(*Tidal Portion*)— Comprising Tonna, Blaenhonddan, Dyffryn Clydach and Coedffranc	96.91	0.0	0.0	0.1	2.97	0.02
AFAN VALLEY— Comprising Baglan Higher and Michaelstone Higher	94.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6	0.0
Totals—N.R.D.C.	92.0	3.58	0.23	0.03	4.08	0.05

The following are results of water analyses during the year :—

No.	*Source.*	*Bacteriological Examination.*	*Chemical Examination.*
1	Concrete Tank, Fforchdwm Uchaf, Tonmawr	Satisfactory.	No evidence of organic contamination.
2	Bronwylfa, Resolven—Ystradfellte Supply	do.	—
3	Cullons Bakery, Neath Abbey—Ystradfellte Supply	do.	—
4	Springs, Blaenavon Farm, Tonmawr	do.	No evidence of organic contamination.
5	Old Colliery Level, Cilfrew	do.	do.
6	Spring near Rhigos Colliery	Of doubtful purity.	Satisfactory.
7	Springs, Blaenavon Farm, Tonmawr	—	Satisfactory.—
8	22, Efail Fach, Pontrhydyfen—Ystradfellte Supply	Satisfactory.	Satisfactory.
9	Bryngolwg Farm, Rhigos—Llynfawr Supply	do.	do.
10	Croesfford Hostel, Rhigos—Mountain Ash Reservoir	do.	—
11	60, Roman Rd., Banwen—Ystradfellte Supply	do.	—
12	2, John St., Resolven do.	do.	—
13	Park Drive, Lonlas, Skewen do.	do.	—
14	Axim House, Penywern do.	do.	—
15	Hyfrydfa, Resolven do.	do.	—
16	4, Penscynnor, Cilfrew do.	do.	—
17	Greenfield Terr., Glynneath do.	do.	—
18	8, Drymma Rd., Neath Abbey—Darren Supply	do.	—
19	Herfynwydd Bungl., Seven Sisters—Private Reservoir	Of moderate bacterial purity.	—
20	Works Canteen, Brynteg, Seven Sisters—Ystradfellte Sup.	Satisfactory.	—
21	2, Brynteg Terr., Seven Sisters—Private Reservoir	Fairly Satisfactory.	—
22	Croesfford Hostel, Rhigos—Mountain Ash Reservoir	Satisfactory.	—
23	Cartref, Cross Roads, Rhigos—Llynfawr Reservoir	do.	—
24	Storage Tank from Stream, Pantycue, Bryncoch	do.	No evidence of organic contamination.
25	Drymma Road, Neath Abbey—Darren Supply	do.	—
26	47, Siding Terr., Skewen—Ystradfellte Supply	do.	—
27	Spring, Banwen Road, Banwen	Unsatisfactory.	Doubtful organic purity.
28	Hyfrydfa, Resolven—Ystradfellte Supply	Satisfactory.	—
29	John's Terr., Tonmawr—Blaenavon Springs	do.	—
30	Hyfrydfa, Resolven—Ystradfellte Supply	do.	—
31	7, Penybont, Seven Sisters—Ystradfellte Supply	do.	—
32	Bronwylfa, Resolven—Ystradfellte Supply	do.	—
33	Westfa, Cromwell Rd., Neath Abbey—Ystradfellte Supply	do.	—
34	Don Transport Cafe, Rhigos—Llynfawr Supply	do.	—
35	9, Railway Terr., Tonmawr—Blaenavon Springs	do.	—

During the year three samples were submitted for analysis to ascertain any possible action of the water on metals, with the following results :—

No. 1. Spring, Blaenavon Farm, Tonmawr.

Action on Lead—24 hours contact. Results per 100,000.

(*a*) Dull weathered lead.
Lead dissolved .44.

(*b*) Bright lead. Total lead eroded and dissolved.

First day 1.80
Second day .40

Remarks :—A soft water of acid reaction with traces only of protective salts and with a considerable solvent action on lead.

No. 2. Old Colliery Level, near Tirlan Farm, Cilfrew.

Action on Lead—24 hours contact. Results per 100,000.

(*a*) Dull weathered lead .05

(*b*) Bright lead. Total lead eroded and dissolved.

First day .05
Second day .04

No. 3. Spring, Blaenavon Farm, Tonmawr.

Action on metals—24 hours contact. Results per 100,000.

(*a*) Dull weathered lead.

Lead dissolved .... (*a*) .44 ; (*b*) .40

(*b*) Bright lead. Total lead eroded and dissolved.

First day 1.04
Second day 36

(*c*) Copper Pipe. Copper dissolved.

(*a*) .18 ; (*b*) .14.

Remarks :—The action on lead is similar to results on previous sample. Chemical analysis indicates that the action on copper is not very marked, i.e., First day, 1/8th grain ; Second day, 1/10th grain per gallon.

(*b*) Drainage and Sewerage.

There were no extensions carried out during the year.

(*c*) Closet Accommodation.

The following Table gives at a glance the position of each Parish as to the nature of its sanitary circumstances :—

DISTRICT	Structural Separate Dwellings.	Water Carriage System to Sewer	Water Carriage System to Cesspool &disused Pits	Water Carriage System to Rivers & Streams	Slop Water System only to Cesspool & Water Course	Houses without Drains	Pails	Privies	Houses without Close accommodation
DULAIS VALLEY									
Dulais Higher (Crynant	336	309	4	0	11	12	16	7	0
(Seven Sisters	665	640	2	0	17	6	19	1	0
(Onllwyn Wards	525	512	2	0	8	3	10	4	0
Dulais Lower	346	302	7	0	23	14	30	7	0
Total	1872	1763	15	0	59	35	75	19	0
NON-TIDAL PORTION OF NEATH VALLEY :									
Rhigos	461	182	18	1	187	73	234	19	7
Neath Higher	1179	997	21	3	110	48	134	24	0
Blaengwrach	216	149	2	0	36	29	63	1	1
Resolven (Resolven Ward	709	654	11	0	35	9	42	2	0
(Cwmgwrach Ward	242	221	2	0	12	7	19	0	0
Neath Lower	113	0	10	0	92	11	96	7	0
Clyne	233	0	12	0	220	1	191	30	0
Total	3153	2203	76	4	692	178	779	83	8
TIDAL PORTION OF NEATH VALLEY :									
Tonna	446	386	15	1	24	20	39	4	1
Blaenhonddan	1052	910	36	0	86	20	86	17	3
Dyffryn Clydach	551	441	24	0	49	37	51	29	6
Coedffranc	2486	2411	18	0	36	21	51	6	0
Total	4535	4148	93	1	195	98	227	56	10
AFAN VALLEY :									
Baglan Higher	110	0	2	0	92	16	93	15	0
Michaelstone Higher	283	231	7	0	42	3	41	3	1
Total	393	231	9	0	134	19	134	18	1
Grand Total	9953	8345	193	5	1080	330	1215	176	19

Closet Accommodation. Percentage Basis.

The following Table gives the percentages of the sanitary circumstances of the houses in the area :—

DISTRICT.	Water Carriage System to Sewer	Water Carriage System to Cesspool & disused Pits	Water Carriage System to Rivers & Streams	Slop Water System only to Cesspool & Water Course	Houses without Drains	Pails	Privies	Houses without Closet accommodation
DULAIS VALLEY— Comprising Dulais Higher and Dulais Lower	94.18	0.80	0.00	3.15	1.87	4.01	1.00	0.01
NON-TIDAL PORTION OF NEATH VALLEY— Comprising Rhigos, Neath Higher, Blaengwrach, Resolven, Neath Lower and Clyne	69.87	2.41	0.13	21.95	5.64	24.70	2.64	0.25
TIDAL PORTION OF NEATH VALLEY— Comprising Tonna, Blaenhonddan, Duffryn Clydach and Coedffranc	91.47	2.05	0.02	4.30	2.16	5.01	1.23	0.22
AFAN VALLEY— Comprising Baglan Higher and Michaelstone Higher	58.78	2.29	0.00	34.10	4.83	34.10	4.58	0.25
TOTALS—N.R.D.C.	83.82	1.94	0.05	10.86	3.32	12.22	1.77	0.19

(*d*) **Rivers and Streams.**

The depositing of small coal into the Neath and Dulais Rivers continues. This practice has now gone on for a number of years with the result that flooding, particularly in the Neath Valley, is becoming increasingly serious. Until such time as the River bed is cleansed and no small coal is deposited therein, flooding during wet periods will continue and possibly become even worse.

The sewage effluent from the Resolven sewage works continues to be unsatisfactory. Plans have been prepared by your Engineer for the improvement of these works and it is to be hoped that the necessary work will soon be undertaken.

The following are results of analyses of sewage and sewage effluents during the year.

Results are stated in parts per 100,000.

Date Collected.	*Description of Sample.*	*Organic Suspended matter.*	*Chlorine.*	*Nitrogen as Nitrates.*	*Nitrogen as Nitrites.*	*Free Ammonia.*	*Albuminoid Ammonia.*	*Dissolved Oxygen absorbed in 5 days at 65oF.*	*Remarks.*
Aug.10	Crude Sewage, Crynant	Small amount	2.4	—	—	1.2	—	—	A weak crude sewage.
Aug.10	Effluent, Crynant	Trace	2.0	.54	Nil	.003	.019	.17	Efficient purification
Aug.10	Crude Sewage, Resolven	Large amount	6.8	—	—	5.8	—	—	A fairly strong crude sewage.
Aug.10	Effluent, Resolven	Large amount 23.2	6.4	.70	.12	4.31	.36	8.8	Unsatisfactory
Dec.17	Crude Sewage, Glynneath	Small amount	6.8	—	—	2.5	—	—	A fairly weak crude sewage
Dec.17	Effluent, Glynneath	Trace	5.6	.80	.02	.15	.05	1.50	Efficient purification.
Dec.17	Crude Sewage, Resolven	Fair amount	8.8	—	—	3.6	—	—	Moderately strong crude sewage.
Dec.17	Effluent, Resolven	Fair amount	5.4	.30	.04	1.80	.25	10.6	Unsatisfactory

(*e*) Public Cleansing.

As stated in the introduction to this part of my Report, I consider that scavenging and particularly the disposal of house refuse in your district to be most unsatisfactory. In many parts of the area refuse is still collected in open carts or lorries with the result that dust is blown about from these vehicles.

The refuse dumps are in the main insanitary. Little, if any control is exercised over the tipping ; dumps in some cases descend over banks some 30 ft. or 40 ft. high to boggy ground at the bottom ; tins are not buried or papers collected and burned with the result that the tips are unsightly breeding grounds for rats, flies, crickets, etc., and often smell abominably. I have reported these matters to you during 1946 and I again reiterate my views and urge you to deal with these dumps quickly.

(*f*) Schools.

The sanitary conditions and water supply of Schools within the District are as follows :—

School.	*Source of Water.*	*Closet Accommodation.*
Aberdulais—Mixed	Ystradfellte Water Supply.	Water Carriage system to Sewer
Aberdulais—Infants	do.	do.
Blaengwrach—Mixed	do.	do.
Blaengwrach—Infants	do.	do.
Bryncoch—Mixed	do.	do.
Bryncoch—Infants	do.	do.
Bryncoch (Non-provided)—Mixed & Infants	do.	do.
Cadoxton—Junior	do.	do.
Cadoxton—Senior	do.	do.
Cilfrew—Junior	Ystradfellte Water Supply	Water Carriage system to sewer.
Coedffranc—Boys	do.	do.
Coedffranc—Girls	do.	do.
Coedffranc—Infants	do.	do.
Skewen Lower—Boys	do.	do.
Skewen Lower—Girls	do.	do.
Clyne—Mixed	do.	Water carriage system to Cesspool.
Clyne—Infants	do.	do.
Crynant—Mixed	do.	Water carriage system to Sewer.
Crynant—Infants	do.	do.
Glyn Neath—Boys	do.	do.
Glyn Neath—Girls	do.	do.
Glyn Neath—Infants	do.	do.
Jersey Marine—Mixed	do.	do.
Jersey Marine—Infants	do.	do.
Maesmarchog—Mixed	do.	do.
Maesmarchog—Infants	do.	do.
Neath Abbey—Infants	do.	do.
Onllwyn—Mixed	do.	do.
Onllwyn—Infants	do.	do.
Resolven—Boys	do.	do.
Resolven—Girls	do.	do.
Resolven—Infants	do.	do.
Rhigos—Mixed	Llynfawr Reservoir	Pail Closet.
Rhigos—Infants	do.	do.
Seven Sisters—Boys	Ystradfellte Water Supply	Water carriage system to Sewer.
Seven Sisters—Girls	do.	do.
Seven Sisters—Infants	do.	do.
Tonna—Mixed	do.	do.
Tonna—Infants	do.	do.
Tonmawr—Mixed	do.	Pail Closet.
Tonmawr—Infants	do.	do.

(*g*) Smoke Abatement.

The issuing of grit from the stack of the Amalgamated Anthracite Colliery Electric Power Station at Cwingwrach continued during the year and caused great inconvenience in the neighbourhood. During 1946 power has not been generated at this Station with the result that the position has been greatly improved. It is to be hoped that when this Station restarts, steps will have been taken to eliminate the past nuisance from grit.

(*h*) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

(*a*) The number and nature of inspections made during the year are given below :—

Nature of Inspection.	*No.*
Houses Inspected	461
Houses Re-inspected	418
Overcrowding Inspections	16
Owners or Contractors interviewed	74

Nature of Inspection.	*No.*
Common Lodging Houses	10
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures	12
Public Houses	85
Amusement Places	49
Schools	7
Bakehouses—Mechanical and Non-Mechanical	81
Other Non-Mechanical Factories	41
Other Mechanical Factories	28
Workplaces other than Offices	23
Offensive Trades	14
Slaughterhouses	59
Piggeries	192
Stables	78
Refuse Tips	167
Accumulations	195
Back Lanes	199
Sewers	11
Drains	85
Public Urinals	122
Cesspools	51
Watercourses	62
Water Supplies	51
Smoke or Grit Observations	11
Rat Infestations	129
Provision Shops and Stores	379
Butchers' Shops and Butchers' Food Preparing Places	466
Greengrocers and Fishmongers	190
Fried Fish Shops	39
Restaurants, Canteens and Food Preparing Places	56
Food Vehicles	137
Railway Stations re Food	2
Cowsheds, Dairies, Milkshops	229
Ice-Cream Premises	20
Infectious Diseases	174
Visits Not Classified	26
TOTAL	4449

(*b*) The following is a summary of Nuisances and Defects remedied during the year :—

(*i*) *Houses.*

Dampness Abated	57
Walls Repaired	5
Outside Plastering Repaired	25
Inside Plastering Repaired	43
Floors Renewed or Repaired	15
Floors Ventilated	2
Roofs Renewed or Repaired	70
Chutes, Down Pipes, etc. Renewed or Repaired	57
Chimneys Repaired	18
Ceilings Repaired	32
Doors and Frames Renewed or Repaired	9
Lighting and Ventilation of Rooms Improved	1
Window Sashes and Frames Renewed or Repaired	27
Window Cords Renewed	51
Staircases Repaired	2
Grates or Ovens Renewed or Repaired	13
Boilers Provided or Repaired	2
Outbuildings Repaired	2
Yard Paving Relaid or Repaired	10
Water Taps or Pipes Repaired or Renewed	40
Houses Treated for Vermin	3
Nuisances from Animals Abated	6
Accumulations Removed	27
Miscellaneous Nuisances and Repairs	8

(*ii*) *Drainage.*

Drains Relaid or Repaired	5
Drains Cleansed	10
Inspection or Interception Chambers Provided or Repaired	4
Intercepting Traps Fixed	8
Soil Pipes or Vent Shafts Fixed or Repaired	1
Bath Wastes Trapped or Repaired	2
Gullies Fixed or Repaired	2

(*iii*) *W.C's.*

New or Additional W.C's Provided	2
W.C's Reconstructed or Repaired	14
Lighting and Ventilation Improved	2
New Pans and Traps Fixed	14
W.C's Cleansed	5
Flushing Apparatus Provided	12
Flushing Apparatus Repaired	22
Miscellaneous Repairs	13

(*iv*) *Earth or Pail Closets.*

Provided	1
Abolished	1
Cleansed or Repaired	8

(*v*) *Cesspools.*

Emptied	10

(*vi*) *Urinals.*

Flushing Apparatus Fixed or Repaired	4
Miscellaneous Repairs	4

(*vii*) *Common Lodging Houses.*

Accumulations Removed	1

(*viii*) *Amusements Places.*

W.C's Repaired	2

(*ix*) *Offensive Trades, Slaughterhouses, Piggeries, Stables, etc.*

Accumulations Removed	8
Cleanliness Improved	6
Impervious Receptacles Provided	2
Other Nuisances or Repairs	1

(*x*) *Fried Fish Shops.*

Accumulations Removed	2

(*xi*) *Food Shops, etc.*

Accumulations Removed or Cleanliness Improved	10

(*xii*) *Food Vehicles.*

Warnings re General Cleanliness, etc.	2

(*xiii*) *Dairies, Cowsheds, Milkshops, etc.*

New Cowsheds Constructed	1
Existing Dairies Improved	1
Existing Cowsheds Improved	2
Drainage Improved	2
Paving Repaired	1
Lighting and Ventilation Improved	1
Water Supply Provided	1
Accumulations Removed	15

Ice-Cream Premises.

Lime Washing or Cleansing Carried Out	1

Miscellaneous.

Protection of Colliery Airshaft	1
Accumulation on Canal Side Removed	1
TOTAL	730

(*c*) *Number of Notices Served* :

(1) Informal	297
(2) Statutory	22
TOTAL	319

(*d*) *Result of Service of Above Notices* :

(1) Informal Notices Complied With	190
(2) Statutory Notices Complied With	7
TOTAL	197

IV. HOUSING.

(1) Housing Schemes.

Since 1918 the Council have constructed 800 houses in the area.

(2) Inspection of Dwelling Houses in the area during the year.

(1) (*a*) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 461

(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose 879

(3) Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice.

(*a*) Number of Defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by local authority or their officers 109

(4) Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(1) Proceedings under Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93 :—

(*a*) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 22

(*b*) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice 7

Overcrowding.

No actual figures in respect of overcrowding in your area are available. The position is without doubt, very bad, as it is throughout the country, and there is only one solution—the speedy building of houses. It is my opinion that some 2,000 houses in the area will go a long way to alleviating the position. You, as a Council, are thoroughly aware of the position and I feel sure you will do all that is possible to obtain sufficient houses in the area that will enable all families to live in comfort.

V. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(*a*) **Milk Supply.**

During the year 229 visits were paid to cowsheds, dairies and milkshops. There are 137 registered milk producers in the area of whom 107 sell by retail and 30 who sell wholesale. In addition 6 producers from outside the area retail milk within the area.

In addition to the above the following number of licences have been issued in the area by the appropriate authorities to sell milk under special designations :—

(1) *Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Milks.*

(*a*) License in respect of establishment at which T.T. milk is sold but not produced or bottled 1

(*b*) Licenses in respect of premises at which Accredited Milk is produced 3

(*c*) License in respect of premises at which Tuberculin Milk is produced 1

(2) *Pasteurised Milk.*

(*a*) License in respect of establishment in which process of pasteurisation is carried on 1

(*b*) Licenses in respect of shops at or from which pasteurised milk is sold but where process of pasteurisation is not carried on 4

During the year samples of milk were submitted for analysis under the Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, with the following results :—

Category A	*Category B*	*Category C*	*Total*
250	84	139	473

In those cases where " C " results were obtained visits have been paid to the producers concerned by an advisory officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and by your Sanitary Inspectors and advice has been given in the methods of production of clean milk.

During the year 17 samples of milk were collected and submitted for examination for Tubercle Bacilli. In each case the samples were free from the Tubercle Bacilli. These samples were also examined for cleanliness, with the following results :—

Satisfactory 8
Unsatisfactory Methylene Blue Reduction Test 6
Unsatisfactory—High B. Coli Content 3

(*b*) **Meat and Other Foods.**

During the year the one slaughterhouse in the area at which throughout the war years a considerable amount of slaughtering had been carried on was closed, owing to the fact that there was insufficient work to justify its continued existence.

Bovine animals slaughtered were chiefly old cows which had been rejected from grading at the Marts and in which there has always been a high percentage of condemnations.

During 1945 the following numbers of Cattle, etc., were slaughtered and examined: —

BOVINES.						Sheep and Lambs		Calves.	
Steers and Heifers.		Bulls.		Cows.					
Sl.	Ex.	Sl.	Ex.	Sl.	Ex.	Sl.	Ex.	Sl.	Ex.
0	0	0	0	83	83	0	0	2636	2636

The following carcases, offal, etc., were surrendered at the slaughterhouse during 1945 :—

Carcases (with offal).

BOVINES.					CALVES.	
Cows.			Heifers.	Bulls.		
T.B.	T.B. with Other Causes.	Other Causes.	Other Causes.	T.B.	T.B.	Other Causes.
4	6	15	0	0	0	18

Heads.

Cow Heads—3	Tuberculosis.

Edible Offal.

53 Bovine Livers	T.B., Parasitic, Cavernous Angioma, etc.
9 Part Bovine Livers	Parasitic.
60 Pair Bovine Lungs	T.B., Parasitic, etc.
1 Bovine Heart	Pericorditis.
11 Bovine Spleens	Inflammation.
152 lbs. Bovine Udders	Garget, etc.
27 Beef Guts	T.B. etc.
25 Tripes	T.B., etc.
19 Calf Plucks	Abscesses, Melanosis, etc.
8 Calf Livers	Melanosis, etc.

Portions of Carcases.

1 Leg Veal	Bruised.

TOTAL WEIGHT CONDEMNED :—

(*a*)	From Tuberculosis	2,443 lbs.
(*b*)	From T.B. with other causes	2,645 lbs.
(*c*)	From other causes	8,996 lbs.
		14,084 lbs.

6 Tons, 5 Cwts., 84 lbs.

The following foodstuffs were surrendered at various shops and depots in the area during the year :—

	lbs.	*ozs.*		*lbs*	*.ozs.*
360 lbs. Home Killed Beef (Bone Taint)	360	0	41 Packets Dried Egg	12	13
150 lbs. Beef & Lamb (Contam. with Petrol)	150	0	52 Packets Egg Substitute	13	0
16 lbs. Frozen Mutton (Decomposition)	16	0	6 Bags Self Raising Flour	18	0
4 Bags Unstoned Dates	429	0	7 Bags Flour	24	8
54 lbs. Dried Prunes	54	0*	24 Packets Chocolate Powder	24	0
1 Bag Dried Peas	112	0	24 Packets Sweetened Milk Cocoa	24	0
1 Bag Sausage Rusks	112	0	4 Packets Scone Mixture	1	0
82½ lbs. Cheese	82	8	4 Packets Cake Flour	4	0
16½ lbs. Bacon	16	8	16 Packets Wheat Flakes	8	0
18½ lbs. Margarine	18	8	2 Packets "All Bran"	2	0
66 lbs. Tea	66	0	14 Packets Pudding Mixture	4	0
37 Tins Fish (various)	29	6½	7¾ lbs. Mustard	7	12
45 Tins Meat (various)	81	4	51 Bottles Pickled Cabbage	37	8
77 Tins Milk (various)	77	7	8 Bottles Pickled Onions	4	0
47 Tins Vegetables and Soups	53	0			

TOTAL : 1,842 lbs., 2½ ozs.
= 16 Cwts., 50 lbs., 2½ ozs.

VI.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table gives a comparison of the number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified during 1944 and 1945 :—

Year.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Puerperal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Measles.	Enteric Fever.
1944	148	66	1	58	3	1	8	38	251	0
1945	109	59	0	24	0	2	7	54	304	0

It will be noted that there is an appreciable decrease in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough and an increase in cases of Measles and Pneumonia.

During the year 324 specimens were examined with the following results :—

Nature of Specimen.	Number Examined.	Results.	
		Positive.	Negative.
Swab ? Diphtheria	318	8	310
Sputum ? T.B.	4	1	3
Blood for Midal	1	0	1
Blood for Malaria	1	1	0

Scarlet Fever.—There were 109 cases notified during the year. There were no deaths. The attack-rate was 2.75 per 1,000 of the population.

Diphtheria.—There were 59 cases notified during the year and 1 death. The attack-rate was 1.49 per 1,000 of the population.

Whooping Cough.—There were 24 cases of Whooping Cough notified during the year. There were no deaths. The attack-rate was 0.60 per 1,000 of the population.

Pneumonia.—There were 54 cases of Pneumonia notified during the year and 19 deaths. The attack-rate was 1.36 per 1,000 of the population and the death-rate 0.47.

Erysipelas.—There were 7 cases notified during the year. The attack-rate was 0.17 per 1,000 of the population.

Measles.—There were 304 cases notif ed during the year and 1 death. The attack-rate was 7.68 per 1,000 of the population.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—There were 2 cases notified during the year. In no case was the vision impaired.

Dysentery.—There was one case notified during the year. The patient recovered.

Malaria.—One case was notified during the year in a person who had contracted the disease abroad. The patient recovered.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

The following Table gives the incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases in the area during the year 1945, together with the number of cases admitted to Hospital and the number of deaths :—

Diseases.	*Total Cases Notified.*	*Cases Admitted to Hospital.*	*Total Deaths.*
Smallpox	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	109	93	0
Diphtheria	59	59	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0
Pneumonia	54	1	19
Erysipelas	7	2	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0	0

Notifiable Diseases—*continued.*

	Total Cases Notified.	*Cases Admitted to Hospital.*	*Total Deaths.*
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neontorum	2	0	0
Whooping Cough	24	1	0
Measles	304	3	1
Dysentery	1	1	0
Malaria (contracted abroad)	1	0	0

The Table given below shows the age distribution of notified Infectious Diseases :—

Diseases.	All Ages.	Under 1 yr.	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65 & over.
Scarlet Fever	109	0	1	4	11	13	43	25	7	4	1	0	0
Diphtheria	59	0	1	1	0	4	15	8	10	15	3	2	0
Pneumonia	54	7	8	1	2	5	1	3	0	5	8	7	7
Erysipelas	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	24	2	3	5	2	5	5	2	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	304	9	32	39	46	51	109	12	5	1	0	0	0
Dysentery	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Malaria	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

Number of Deaths.

The following Table shows the number of deaths from Infectious Diseases during the year as well as age-distribution :—

Disease.	All Ages.	Under 1 yr.	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65 & over.
Diphtheria	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	19	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	8
Measles	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

The following Table shows the inc dence of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Erysipelas, Cerebro-Spinal Fever, Whooping Cough and Measles during recent years :—

Year.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Measles.
1936	2.91	2.28	0.00	0.29	—	—	—
1937	2.89	1.24	0.02	0.15	—	—	—
1938	2.18	3.05	0.04	0.09	—	—	—
1939	1.06	2.40	0.08	0.23	—	—	—
1940	0.40	2.30	0.00	0.30	—	—	—
1941	0.94	2.45	0.02	0.14	0.57	2.05	17.36
1942	3.33	2.67	0.00	0.12	0.20	1.77	9.35
1943	1.63	3.16	0.00	0.17	0.02	3.59	6.98
1944	3.74	1.67	0.00	0.20	0.02	1.45	6.35
1945	2.75	1.49	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.60	7.68

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Notified.	Cases. Treated. At Home.	Cases. Treated. Hospital.	Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Total Deaths.
2	2	0	2	0	0	0

The following Table gives the Parish Distribution of cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year :—

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia (all forms)	Erysipelas	Opthalmia Neonatorum	Whooping Cough	Measles	Dysentery	Malaria (contracted abroad)	Tuberculosis	
										Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
DULAIS VALLEY :											
Parish of Dulais Higher	25	15	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	11	5
Parish of Dulais Lower	5	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0
TOTAL	30	18	0	1	0	1	3	0	0	12	5
NON-TIDAL PORTION OF NEATH VALLEY :											
Parish of Rhigos	5	1	2	1	0	4	5	0	0	4	3
Parish of Neath Higher	35	7	13	1	0	5	60	0	1	8	5
Parish of Blaengwrach	7	0	1	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	1
Parish of Resolven	12	16	6	1	0	0	96	0	0	11	4
Parish of Neath Lower	1	2	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Parish of Clyne	2	8	1	0	0	0	22	0	0	3	0
TOTAL	62	34	24	3	0	9	201	0	1	26	13
TIDAL PORTION OF NEATH VALLEY :											
Parish of Tonna	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	1
Parish of Blaenhonddan	7	1	2	0	1	0	22	0	0	4	1
Parish of Dyffryn Clydach	1	0	3	2	1	2	34	0	0	6	0
Parish of Coedffranc	7	2	25	1	0	12	41	1	0	18	6
TOTAL	17	5	30	3	2	14	100	1	0	31	8
AFAN VALLEY :											
Parish of Baglan Higher	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parish of Michaelstone Higher	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
TOTAL	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
TOTAL OF ALL PARISHES	109	59	54	7	2	24	304	1	1	72	26

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The work of immunisation was continued during the year when the following numbers of children were immunised :—

Age at Date of Final Injection.		Total under 15.
0—4 years.	5—15 years.	
537	684	1221

The following Table shows the number of children resident within the area who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1945 :—

Age at 31/12/45.	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5—9	10—14	Total.
Number Immunised	0	256	352	345	333	2494	2527	6307

The following table shows the number immunised, estimated child population and the percentage of children immunised in the area :—

Age Group.	1—4 Years.	5—15 Years.
Estimated Child Population	2624*	6210
Number Immunised	1286	5021
Percentage Immunised	49.0	80.8

* The estimated number of children from0—4 years is 3,280. The figure of 2,624 is taken as an estimate of the number of children from 1 year to 4 years. Of the 59 cases of Diphtheria notified during the year 29 were under 15 years of age. Of these cases, 18 had been previously immunised and all recovered.

There was one death, a child aged 4 years ; this child had not been immunised.

Since immunisation has been introduced the incidence as well as deaths in the child population up to the age of 15 years has been considerably reduced, but it is noticeable that the number of cases in adults has much increased in recent years.

Tuberculosis.

72 cases of Pulmonary and 26 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year as compared with 62 Pulmonary and 10 Non-Pulmonary cases for the previous year. During 1945 there were 21 deaths from Pulmonary and 5 deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis which corresponds to a death-rate of 0.53 and 0.12 respectively. The total death-rate from Tuberculosis, all forms, was 0.65.

The following Table shows the age distribution of new cases of Tuberculosis notified and deaths during 1945 :—

Age Periods.	New Cases Notified.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
0 Year to 1 Year	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1 Year to 5 Years	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0
5 Years to 10 Years	2	2	3	3	0	0	0	0
10 Years to 15 Years	1	3	0	5	0	0	0	0
15 Years to 20 Years	2	6	1	0	1	1	0	1
20 Years to 25 Years	2	9	2	2	0	2	0	0
25 Years to 35 Years	7	8	1	2	2	3	0	1
35 Years to 45 Years	9	2	0	1	2	1	1	1
45 Years to 55 Years	4	2	1	0	2	3	0	0
55 Years to 65 Years	5	3	0	0	2	0	0	0
65 Years and upwards	2	2	1	0	1	1	0	0
Totals	34	38	11	15	10	11	1	4

The ratio of non-notified to total notified Tuberculosis deaths during the year is as 7 is to 26. Of the 7 deaths not notified 1 was certified after post-mortem and inquest as Tuberculosis with Pneumonnocosis ; one died in a Mental Hospital and death was certified after post-mortem and inquest as Tuberculosis and valvular disease of heart ; one died in Hospital at the age of 7 months from Tubercular Meningitis ; one died in Hospital from a tubercular ulceration of large intestine ; in the remaining 3 cases the practitioners certifying death were of the opinion that the cases had been notified.

The death rates from Tuberculosis (since 1935) are shown in the following Table :—

	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
General Death-rate ...	11.7	11.1	11.3	11.2	12.0	11.4	12.7	11.7	11.1	10.6	11.5
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.56	0.42	0.49	0.59	0.46	0.68	0.52	0.53	0.66	0.63	0.53
Tuberculosis (Other Forms)	0.17	0.17	0.19	0.12	0.05	0.17	0.27	0.12	0.13	0.18	0.12
Tuberculosis (All Forms)	0.74	0.59	0.68	0.71	0.51	0.85	0.79	0.65	0.79	0.81	0.65

Scabies.

As mentioned in my previous Report, cases of Scabies are treated at the Neath Borough Clinic at Dyfed Road, Neath, at a charge of three shillings per case. During the year 108 such cases received treatment.